

Functions of the Department of Health

1. Prevention and Control of Diseases

- 1.1 Prevention and control of communicable diseases (including STD, AIDS and TB)
Surveillance, field investigation, contact tracing, immunization, implement control measures, law enforcement, laboratory, port health, etc.
- 1.2 Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases
Health screening (infants, students, antenatal, postnatal, women, elderly, certain occupations, etc), genetic screening, etc

2. Health Promotion/Protection

- 2.1 Central health education unit
Territory-wide health education campaigns, training of health promoters, production of health education materials
- 2.2 District health system
Health education programmes at district level
- 2.3 Oral health education unit
- 2.4 Men's health
- 2.5 Tobacco control
- 2.6 Occupational health
- 2.7 Travellers' health
- 2.8 Health education activities of various services

3. Regulation and Licensing

- 3.1 Health care professionals (Western)
Secretariat support to professional boards and council
- 3.2 Private hospitals/clinics/nursing home
Licensing and regulation of private hospitals/clinics/nursing home/exempted clinics
- 3.3 Pharmaceutical
Includes pharmacists, products, importers, wholesalers and retailers
- 3.4 Chinese medicine
Practitioners, herbs and manufacturers

3.5 Radiation substances

Control import, export, possession, use of radioactive substances and apparatus

3.6 Health claims and medical device

Under study

4. Curative care / diagnostic

4.1 Dermatology

4.2 TB & chest

4.3 STD & AIDS

4.4 Child assessment (developmental diagnosis)

4.5 Clinical genetics

4.6 Elderly health

4.7 Occupational health

4.8 Civil servant (dental and family clinics)

5. Services related to security functions

5.1 Forensic pathology

5.2 Narcotics and Methadone clinics

6. Adviser to Government on other health matters

Public Health Functions of Food, Environmental Hygiene Department

1. Food Surveillance and control

Territory-wide programmes on food safety control, food surveillance, import and export control, management of food-related incidents (e.g. food poisoning outbreaks at food premises, food recalls), promote food hygiene, advice on food standards

2. Veterinary public health

Prevention and control of disease originating in live food animals

3. Pest control advisory service

Professional advice on pest control

Public Health Functions of Government Laboratory

Provision of service on chemical analysis and investigations on food, drug and Chinese medicine

Public Health Functions of Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Prevention and control of rabies, provision of quarantine services, issue food health certificates, control of pesticides for protection of public health

August 2003